

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5, with the following  
amended paragraph:

The present application relates to co-pending United States patent application of concurrent ownership entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ACCELERATING HARDWARE SIMULATION," Attorney docket number ~~252/025~~ and Serial Number ~~Serial No. 09/586,325~~, filed on ~~June 2, 2000~~ and which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.